# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

#### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

J. Robert Galvin, M.D., M.P.H. Commissioner



M. Jodi Rell Governor

May 16, 2008

# Dear Colleague:

Governor M. Jodi Rell and the Connecticut Department of Public Health cordially invite you to the launch of Connecticut's new handwashing campaign, designed to raise awareness of every resident's role in reducing healthcare-associated infections:

# Making Connecticut Safer: Two Hands at a Time

June 13, 2008 10:00 am

Old Judiciary Room, 3rd Floor State Capitol, 210 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT

Please RSVP by June 6, 2008 to Jennifer Squires, DPH Office of Communications jennifer.squires@ct.gov or (860) 509-7270

At this event, hospitals, nursing homes, and healthcare workers will be asked to pledge their support for the campaign and to help sustain year-long educational efforts to protect their patients, employees, and Connecticut's communities. Following the event, educational materials and templates will be distributed to hospitals and nursing homes throughout the state to help these organizations increase hand washing among patients, family members, and visitors, and set expectations concerning hand washing among healthcare workers.

The June kick-off event and educational campaign are part of a larger healthcare-associated infections initiative. The Connecticut legislature recently established the Committee on Healthcare Associated Infections and charged it with advising the Department of Public Health on the development and implementation of a mandatory reporting system for healthcare



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associated infections in Connecticut. Connecticut is now one of 16 states using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Healthcare Safety Network. Working with the newly established and staffed Healthcare Associated Infections Program at the Department of Public Health, Connecticut hospitals will soon be able to report on central line associated bloodstream infections in intensive care units using this new reporting system.

Public education about healthcare-associated infections and methods for reducing the spread of infections is a critical element to the success of a statewide reporting system. I hope that you will join me on June 13 as we renew our pledge to reduce healthcare associated infections. Together, we can make Connecticut safer.

Sincerely,

J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA

J Robert Halvin MD, MPH, MBA

Commissioner

# **AGENDA**

### 10:00 am - 10:10 am

Welcome Commissioner J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA

10:10 am - 10:20 am

Keynote Address Richard Garibaldi, MD Infectious Disease Specialist at University of Connecticut Health Center

### 10:20 am - 10:35 am

Group Pledge
Lead by Commissioner Galvin and Industry Representatives

My organization is making a commitment to
Making Connecticut Safer: Two Hands at a Time.

As a leader in my organization, I pledge my support for this year-long handwashing campaign to help protect Connecticut's patients, employees and communities.

#### 10:35 am - 10:45 am

Signing of the Pledge Poster and Photo Opportunity

### **Parking and Directions**

**Parking:** Limited free parking is available in the Legislative Office Building (LOB) parking garage adjacent to the Capitol and accessible from both Capitol Avenue and Broad Street. There is a concourse that can take you from the LOB to the Capitol. On-street metered parking and commercial parking lots are also nearby.

#### **Directions:**

- Going East on I-84: Take the Capitol Ave. Exit 48B. The LOB on the right.
- Going West on I-84: Take the Asylum Street Exit 48. Turn right at the light, then immediately take the left fork, which is Farmington Avenue. Turn left at the next light onto Broad Street. After one light and the State Armory, turn left into the LOB driveway and continue left to the LOB Garage.
- From I-91, Northbound and Southbound: Take the Capitol Area Exit 29A. Follow the Whitehead Highway; go halfway around the rotary onto Elm St., left onto Trinity St., and bear right onto Capitol Ave. The LOB is on the right.